(The non-existence of) secondary stress in Hungarian

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  - no acoustic or articulatory data supporting this view
- our claim: there is no such pattern in Hungarian

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- further research and conclusions

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- only the 4th, phonological type is relevant here

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- this claim has been replicated without verification in the OT literature (cf. Kager 1995 and many others)

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- [ˈfeːlɛˈmɛlɛˌtɛid], [ˈkiʃkunˈfeːlɛɟˌhaːzaːˈbɒn], [ˈɛlkaːˈpostaːˌʃiːtotːˈɒlɒˌniːtotːˈaːtok]

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- alternating secondary stresses follow regularly afterwards: [ˈfɛlɛkɛˌzɛtiˌjɛkeː]
- makes different predictions from the standard view for words in which the third syllable is light

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- secondary stress is assigned post-lexically, within phonological phrases
- however, an even later, optional deletion rule can can eliminate any secondary stress
- so how do we know there was secondary stress there in the first place?

Varga (2000): the 'patronising' intonation pattern

"[. . .] azt fejezi ki, hogy a beszélő a mondat tartalmát magától értetődőnek (nyilvánvalónak, természetesnek, könnyen kitalálhatónak stb.) tartja. A dallamsorozat egyúttal a beszélő intellektuális vagy hivatali fölényét is érzékelteti, és így egyszerre leereszkedő és kategorikus attitűdöt is kifejezhet, de nem barátságtalan. "

[. . . it expresses the fact that the speaker considers the content of the sentence to be self-evident (obvious, natural, predictable, etc.). At the same time, this melody conveys the intellectual or official superiority of the speaker, therefore it can simultaneously express a paternalising and categorical attitude, but it is not unfriendly.]

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- Varga's explanation: some speakers use the Szinnyei-type dialect

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- still no convincing phonological argument for secondary stress

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- following Varga, we assume vowel intensity is the main cue for hypothetical secondary stress in Hungarian.

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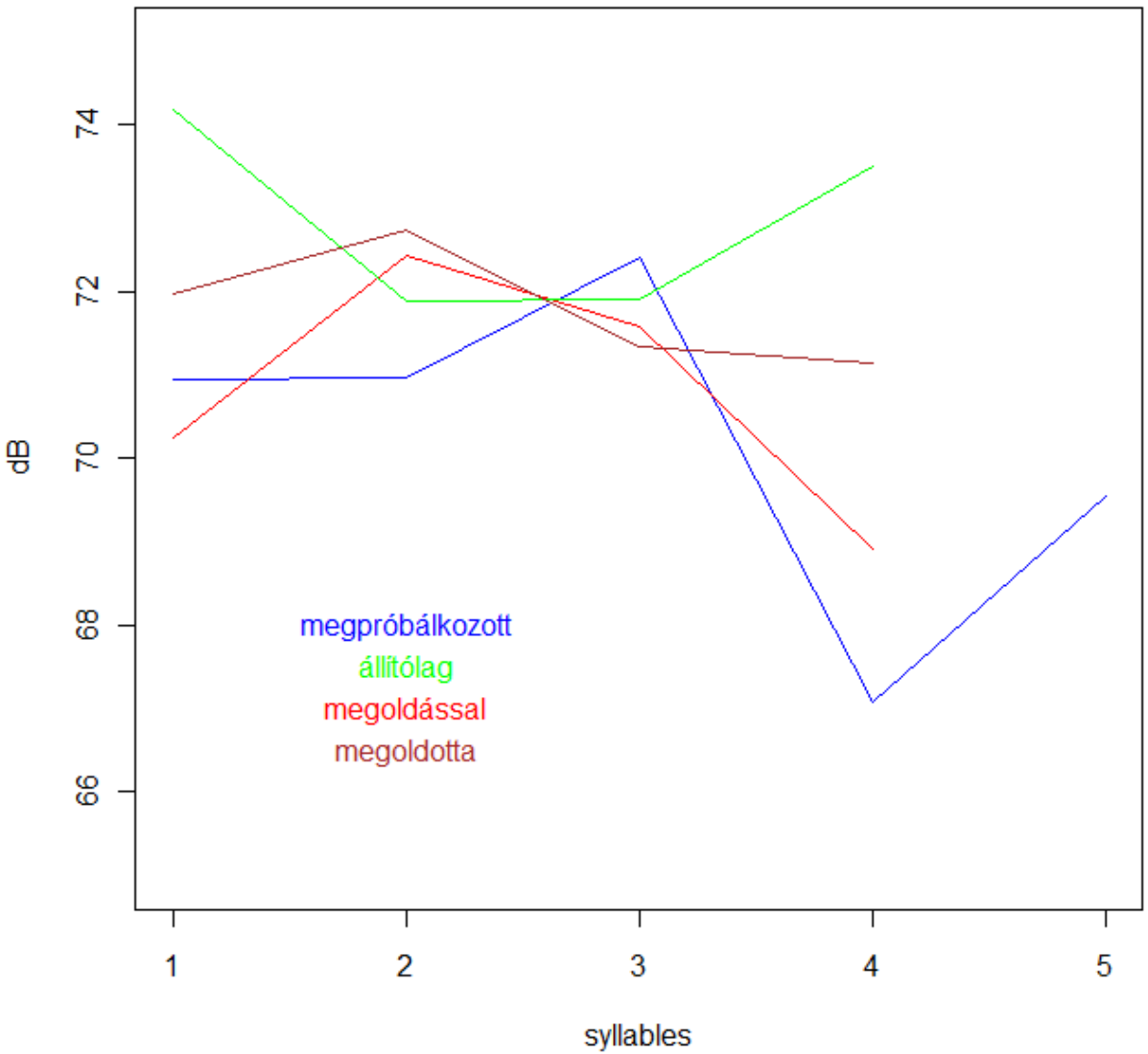
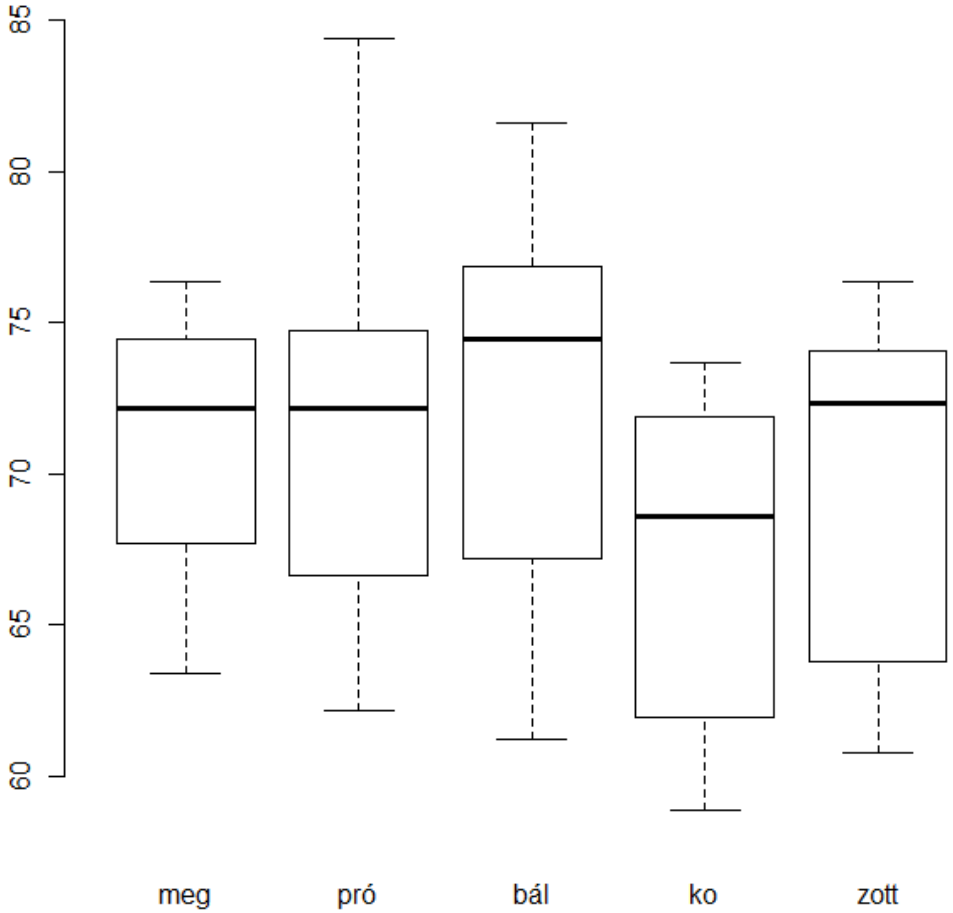
- comparison of neighbouring syllables using paired *t*-tests

Words with heavy 3rd syllable

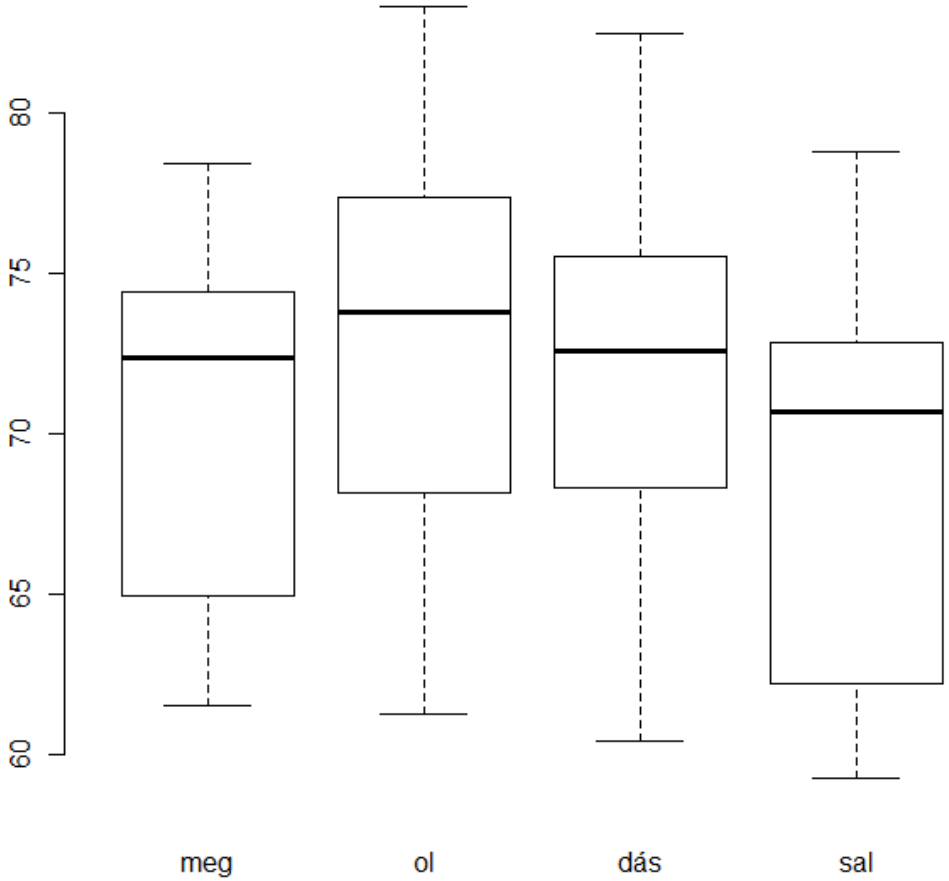




significant:

2<3

3>4



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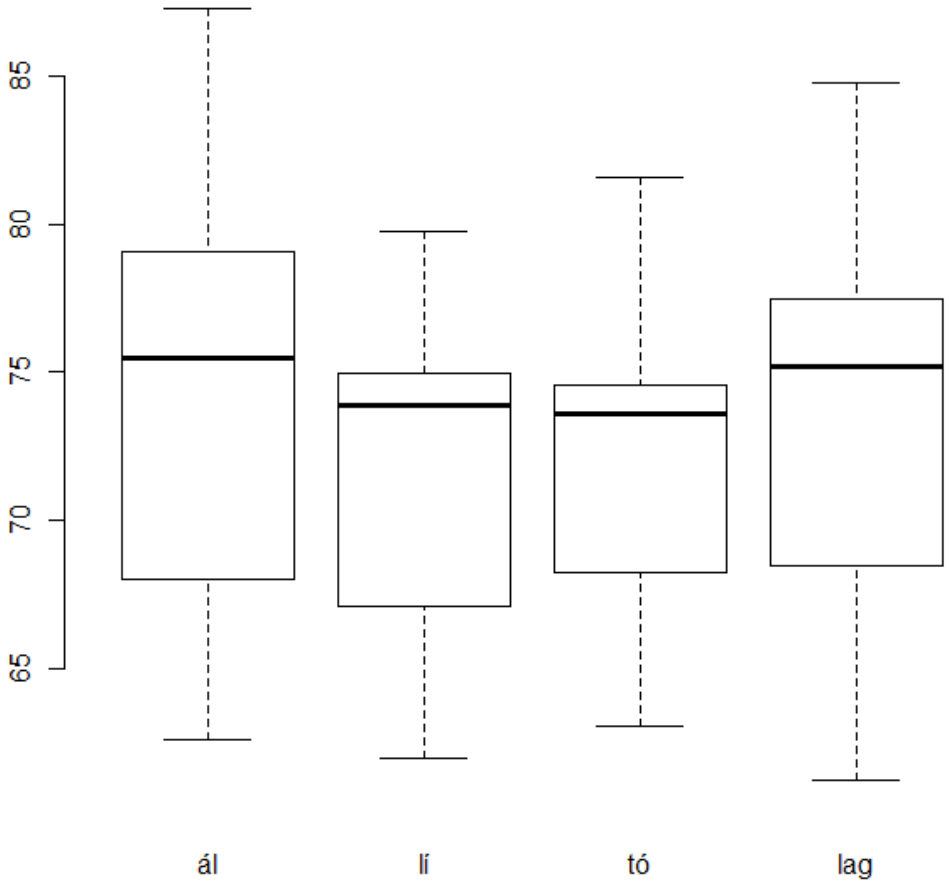

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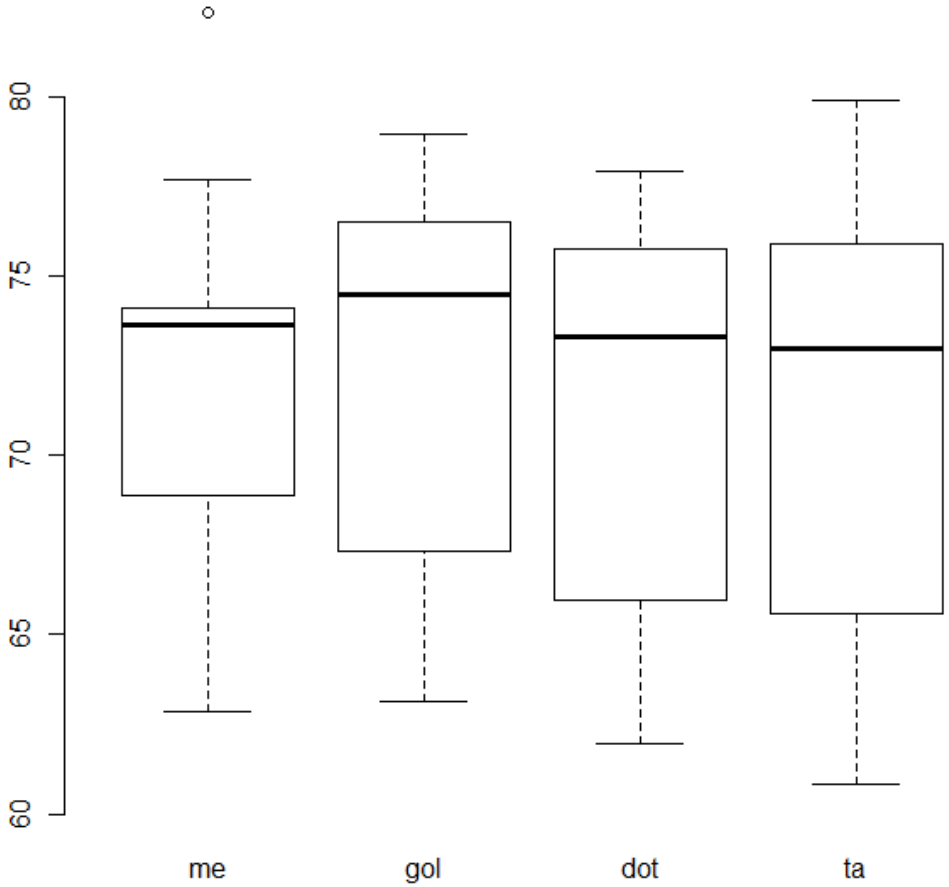

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- all other words contradict this

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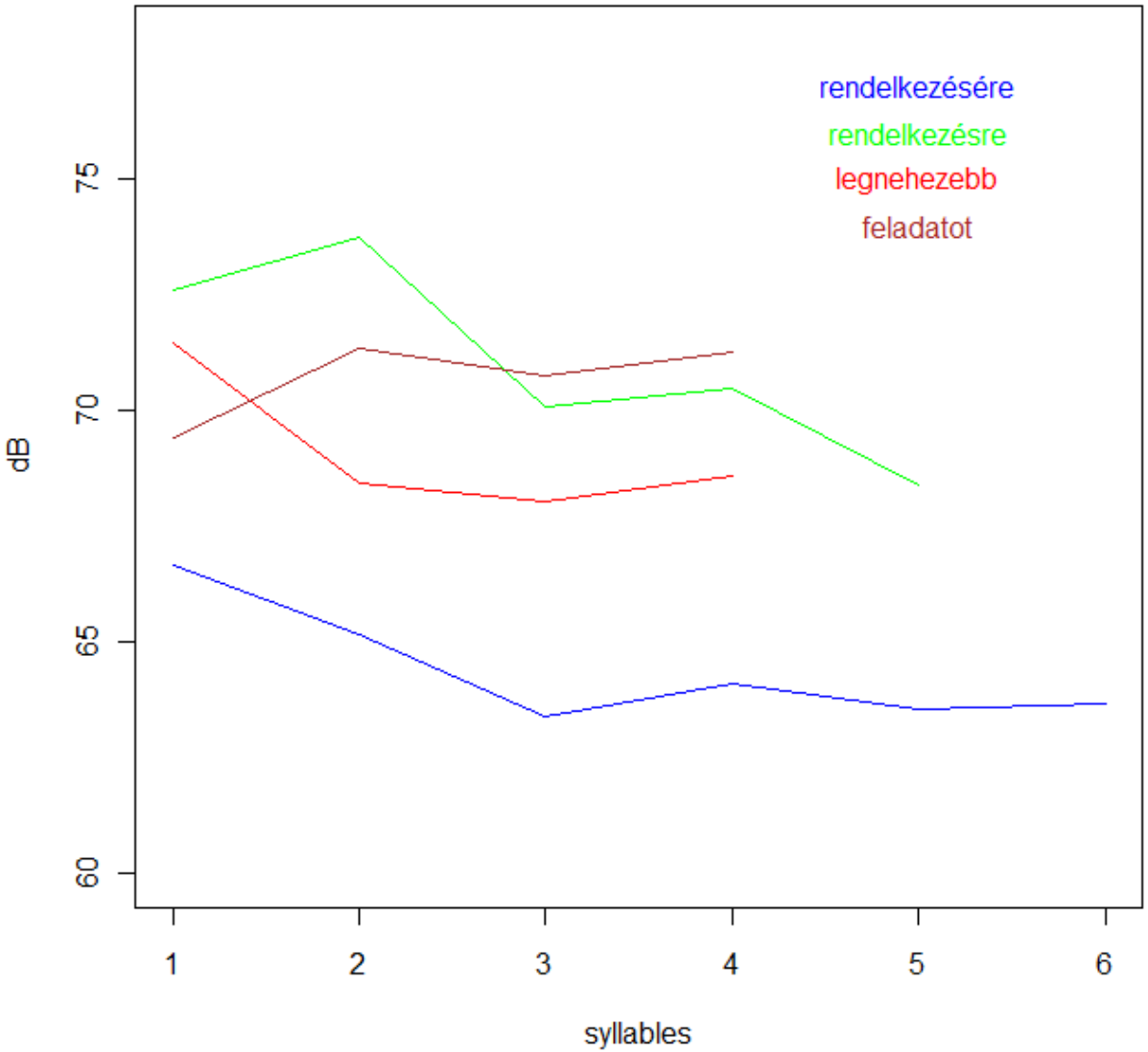

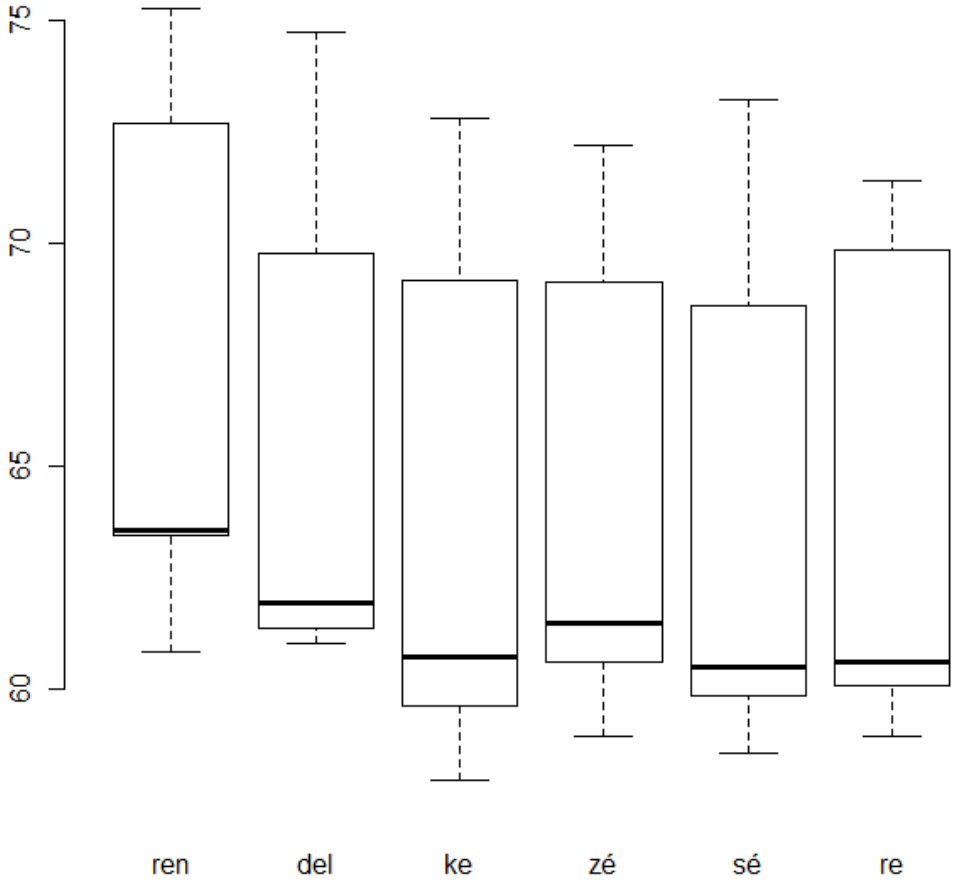

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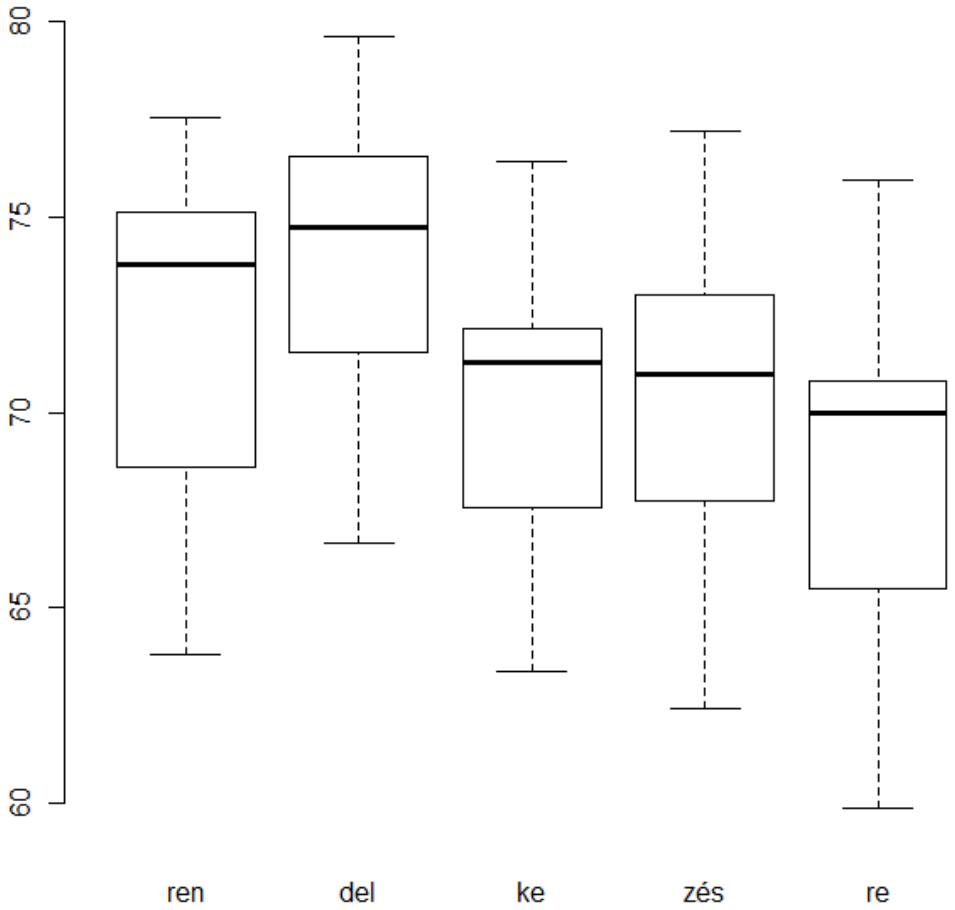

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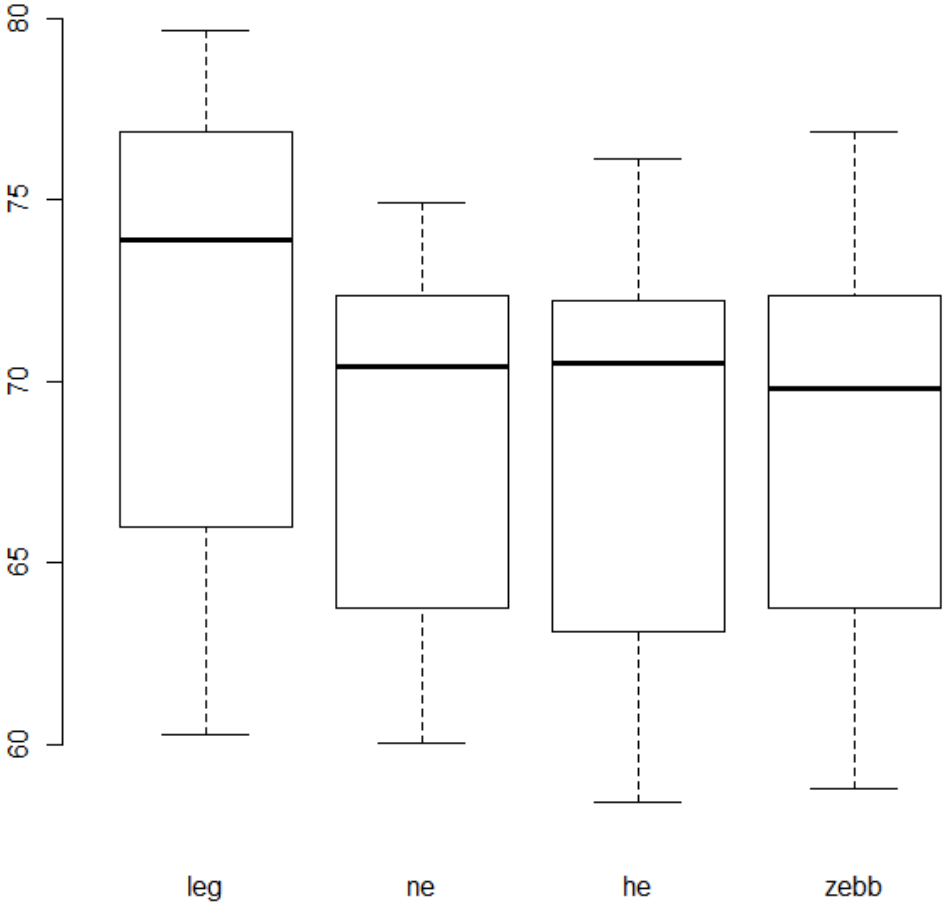

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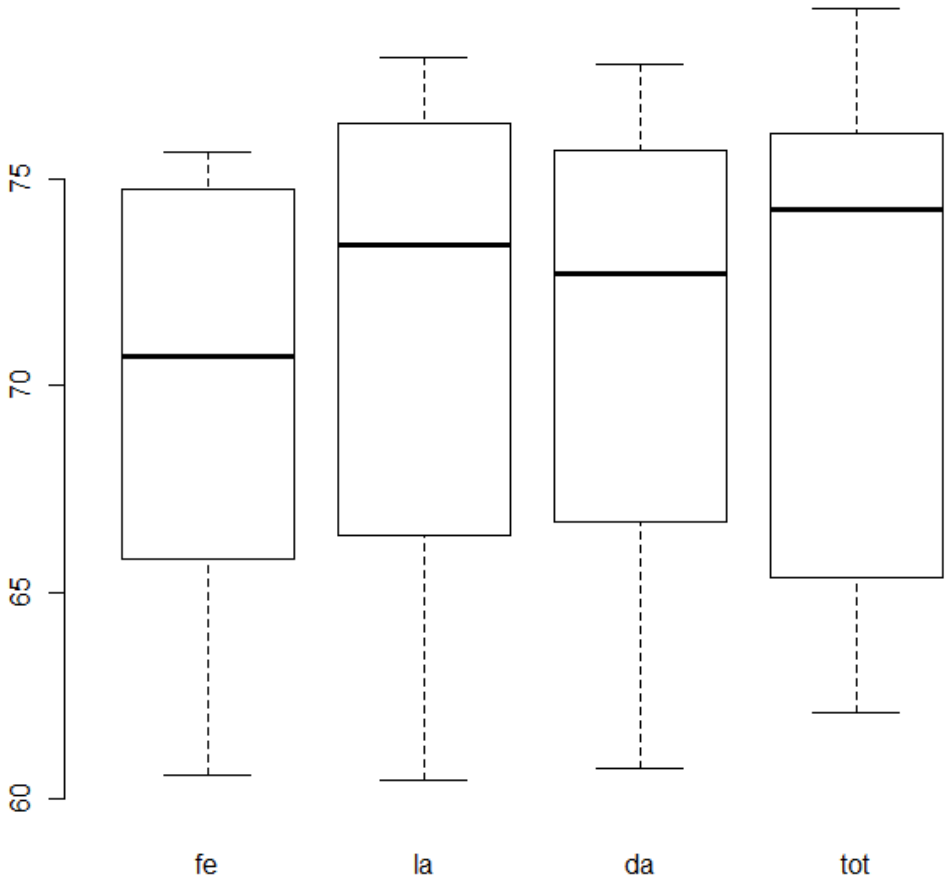

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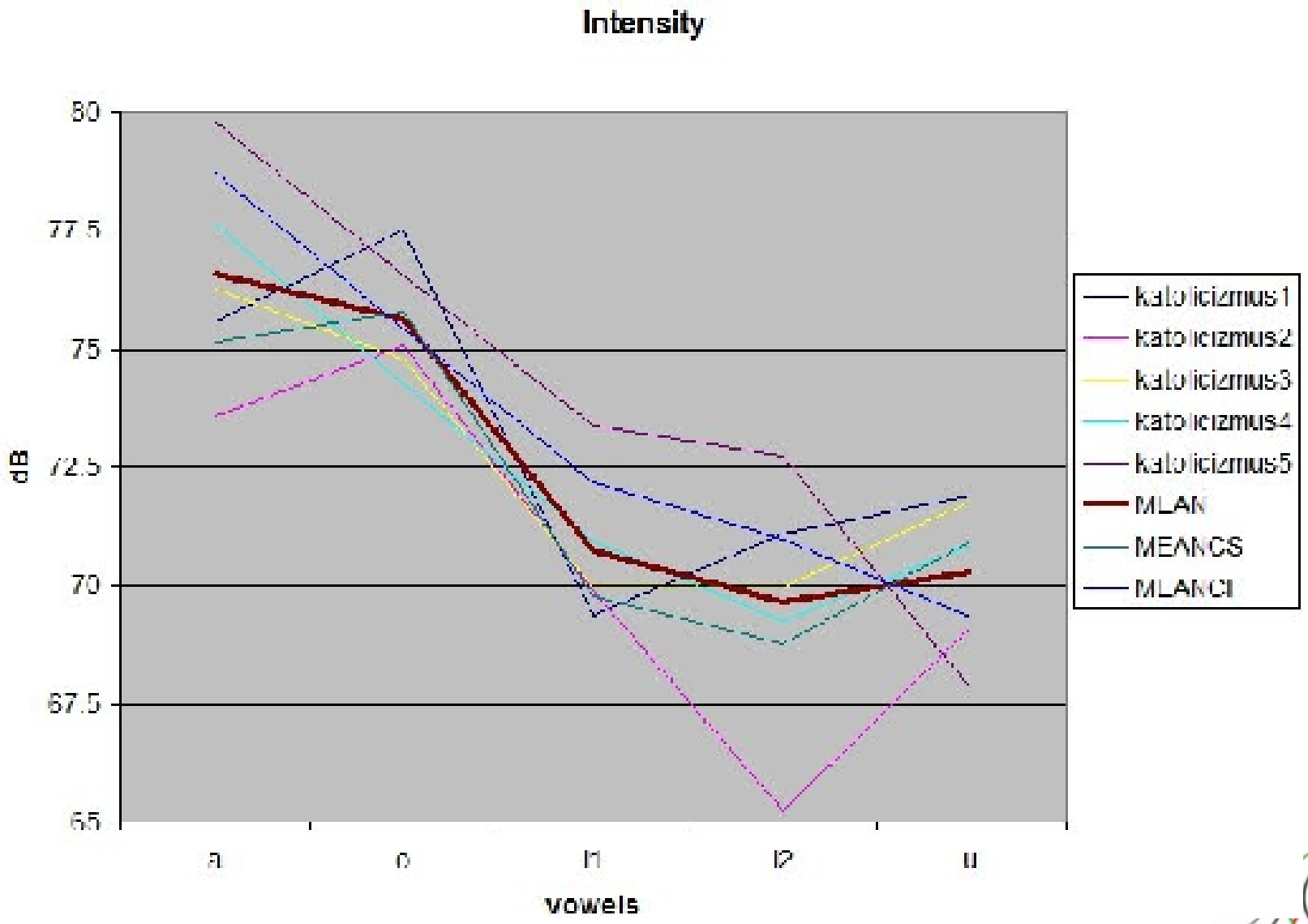
  - all other words show non-significant increase

Steady intensity decrease *contra* Szinnyei



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- if there is a slight increase of intensity, its place is usually where Szinnyei predicts it.

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- Varga (2000) reinterpreting Gráf (1998): another possible phonological effect of secondary stress: optional lenition of [b], [d], [g] (cf. Siptár 1995) blocked if followed by a vowel with secondary stress – doesn't seem to hold

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- solid fieldwork is indispensable even for theoreticians

Thank you!

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